GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1197
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2012
DEVELOPMENT OF BUDDHIST TRAIL
Mitra Shri Somendra Nath

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of West Bengal to develop a `Buddhist Trail` to attract foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has explored the possibilities of developing new tourism circles in West Bengal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the achievements made so far to develop various tourism circles in the State?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI)

(a): No, Madam. The State Government of West Bengal has not submitted any proposal to develop a "Buddhist Trail" to Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) to (e): Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, however, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for tourism related projects under various schemes which are identified in consultation and interaction with them.

State Government of West Bengal has been sanctioned `149.54 crore during the 11th plan period and `46.68 crore during 2012-13 (upto 30th September, 2012) for the development of various tourist destinations/circuits.